



STATE OF CONNECTICUT • COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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TOWN PLANNER'S OFFICE

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## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 14, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Sean Kelly, Vice Chairman Chris Todd, David Hurley, Stanislav Moline arrived at 7:30 and Alternate Stefanie Cunningham

**ABSENT:** Alternate Gilbert Gamboa

### **STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Kristin Michaud, Recording Secretary

### **I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Kelly called the EDC meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

### **II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE**

### **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

**MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD TO THE AGENDA A DISCUSSION REGARDING C-PACE (COMMERCIAL PROPERTY-ASSESSED CLEAN ENERGY).**

Commissioner Hurley reviewed with the Commission the idea behind C-PACE and how it could benefit business's in town. He noted that this program is part of the Governors' energy improvements for Businesses.

Some examples of that are as follows:

- a. High efficiency lighting (LED)
- b. Heating Ventilation air conditioning upgrades
- c. Renewable energy systems
- d. Water conservation measures to the extent they save energy
- e. Fuel switching

Commissioner Hurley also reviewed what types of buildings are eligible and what isn't eligible within the program.

Commissioner Todd noted it may be an added burden to the tax department. Commissioner Hurley stated it would just be added to the tax roll.

Commissioner Hurley also suggested having the town staff look into the program and report back to the Commission.

Commissioner Todd noted that Lisa Houlihan, Assistant Town Planner, was already attending the C-PACE Seminar and that she would report back to the Commission at our next regular meeting.

Discussion ensued.

**MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ASK TOWN STAFF TO INVESTIGATE THE C-PACE PROGRAM AS A POSSIBILITY FOR TOWN USE.**

#### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

##### **1. Report: Tax Abatement**

The Commission reviewed the draft revisions and decided to move forward with sending this draft to the town staff and Board of Selectman for comment.

**MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO FORWARD THE TAX ABATEMENT FINAL DRAFT TO TOWN STAFF AND BOARD OF SELECTMAN FOR COMMENT.**

##### **2. Report: Agricultural Initiatives**

Chairman Kelly noted there would be a town meeting regarding a Tax Abatement on farm buildings and noted that the meeting is scheduled for December 10 and that he planned to attend that meeting and urged other members of the board to be in attendance if possible.

Commissioner Todd reviewed what this means for the farmers and the town with those in the audience.

#### **NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

##### **3. Report: Business Directory**

Chairman Kelly reviewed GoLocal and asked the Commission if they had reviewed the materials provided to them. He then spoke of how he went on other town's websites that are currently utilizing GoLocal and noted that he had a difficult time maneuvering around the site and how it was not very user friendly. He stated that the concept was good but needed to be tweaked.

Commissioner Todd stated that it depended on how much is done by each company to keep the information on the site current.

Commissioner Hurley went online to the Town of New Milford website to see where it was located on the site and he found it in the middle of the home page.

Chairman Kelly noted the town staff is looking into funding for start-up fees through the end of this fiscal year (6/30/13) is being sought. He suggested the Commissioners review each town currently using GoLocal and make a list on what they like and didn't like about the site and report back. He also suggested maybe contacting a few of the businesses in other towns who are currently involved with it and see how it is impacting them as well as, contact other towns to see how it is working out for them.

Discussion ensued.

#### **NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

#### **4. Report: Business Surveys and Site Visits**

Commissioner Cunningham reported on her attendance at a South Windsor Meet and Greet for local business's and how wonderfully done it was and how there was a consistent flow of towns people in attendance. She stated the high school did a wonderful job of putting this event together and how maybe Ellington could incorporate this into the business surveys as a question to see if there is interest in putting something like this together. Commissioner Cunningham thought the town of Ellington could benefit from something like this.

Chairman Kelly noted that the Rise Above high school group is currently setting something like this up and he will be in contact with that group to see where they are at on the project.

Audreanna Rodriguez, 15 Hoffman Road, suggested accessing the high school media class to help advertise.

#### **NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

#### **5. Report: Tax Incentive Programs**

Nothing to report.

#### **NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

#### **6. Report: Current Economic Activity**

See report under Agricultural Initiatives.

#### **NO MOTIONS OR DECISIONS**

### **V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

1. Approval of the October 10, 2012, regular meeting minutes.

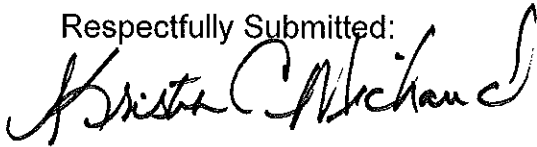
MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED (D. HURLEY;  
ABSTAINED) TO ADD TO THE AGENDA AND APPROVE THE 2013  
MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE EDC.

MOVED (TODD), SECONDED (CUNNINGHAM) AND PASSED (S. KELLY  
AND D. HURLEY; ABSTAINED) TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 10, 2012  
MEETING MINUTES AS WRITTEN.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED (HURLEY), SECONDED (KELLY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY  
TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Michaud". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, prominent "M" and "C".

Kristin Michaud  
Recording Secretary